

6. (Previously Amended) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said porosity is greater than approximately 95%.

7. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said matrix is biodegradable.

8. (Previously Amended) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said porosity is greater than approximately 80%.

9. (Previously Amended) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said porosity is greater than approximately 80%.

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15. (Previously Added) A solid matrix having a porosity comprising a mixture of hydroxyapatite and at least one polymer in a ratio, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(L-lactic acid), poly(D,L-lactic acid-co-glycolide acid (PLGA), and poly(methyl methacrylate), wherein said ratio is between 90:10 and 10:90.

16. (Previously Added) The solid matrix of Claim 15, wherein said ratio is 70:30.

17. (Previously Added) The solid matrix of Claim 15, wherein said ratio is 30:70.

18. (Previously Added) The solid matrix of Claim 15, wherein said porosity is greater than approximately 80%.

19. (Previously Added) The solid matrix of Claim 15, wherein said porosity is greater than approximately 85%.

20. (Previously Added) The solid matrix of Claim 15, wherein said porosity is greater than approximately 90%.